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Intellectual Property Department
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Your Reference: DY3019
Application No: GB 0219781.2

3 January 2003

The Patent Office
Patents Directorate

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Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

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Plurality of invention

I consider that your application relates to more than one invention as follows:

(a) A seal, and method of making a seal, comprising a seal element with a seal edge which is held in close proximity to a rotating surface, the edge being reinforced by creases extending away from the edge, the seal element including perforations to achieve the desired pressure differential across the element as claimed in claims 1 and 20 and all claims appendant thereto.

(b) A seal, and method of making a seal, comprising a seal element with a seal edge which is held in close proximity to a rotating surface, the edge being reinforced by creases extending away from the edge, the seal element including slots to facilitate flexibility in the edge as claimed in claims 2 and 21 and all claims appendant thereto.

My search report relates to the first invention only. If you want the other invention searched, you should file a further Patents Form 9/77.

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citation.

Publication

¹**Use of E-mail:** Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



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I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **13 January 2004**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT".**

Yours faithfully

Kevin Hewitt
Examiner



Application No: GB 0219781.2
Claims searched: 1, 3-10, 15-20, 22-33

Examiner: Kevin Hewitt
Date of search: 2 January 2003

Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
A	-	GB 0803452 A (CANADIAN PATENTS) See especially Fig. 2.

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC⁶:

F2B

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC⁷:

F01D, F16J

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO